

DEAR SIR: I regret to inform you that I have not been able to make any analyses of the artificial manures now offered for sale in our market; having no more time at my disposal than is necessary to analyze the soils, marls, &c., of the particular counties in which I have been engaged. The office of my assistant expired on the 10th of last March, and, according to the decision of the Comptroller of the Treasury, the *Appropriation Bill did not, per se, continue his salary*. The law was not enacted to continue to the state the services of this eminently skillful and industrious gentleman, though several of the largest counties in the State have yet to be examined. The information which I shall give you must therefore be derived from what these manures say for themselves by their interpreted analyses.

The only manure which has recently been brought prominently before the public is one called "*C. B. DeBurg's Super Phosphate of Lime*." This manure has been extensively advertised in the public papers, and also by means of printed sheets containing its analysis, and a recommendation by Dr. David Stewart, a Chemist of this city. From an attentive examination of the report on this manure, one of two conclusions must be formed: First, either the analysis must be incorrect; or, that this manure is sold under a false name, it being no "*Super Phosphate*."

"*Super Phosphate of Lime*," as we know, and as is particularly stated to us in the Baltimore Weekly "*Sun*" of May 20th, should be nothing else but bones (or other Phosphates) dissolved in sulphuric acid; and theory shows the mixture of both to be: For every 100 lbs. of raw bones 29 lbs. of oil of vitriol. Such a mixture would then contain about 21 lbs. of real sulphuric acid without water, and its composition would be pretty well represented by the following numbers:

Moisture.....	10
Animal Matter.....	27
containing of Nitrogen 1.25, equal to Ammonia, 1.5.	
Hydrated Sulphate of Lime (Plaster of Paris).....	39
containing of real Sulphuric Acid, 18.	
Bi-Phosphate of Lime, soluble.....	24
containing of Phosphoric Acid 17.	

T. Thomas Way, Consulting Chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, remarks that no neutral or insoluble Phosphate is mentioned, because it is supposed to be entirely converted into Bi-Phosphate (Super-Phosphate;) with it must be said, however, that it is practically impossible to do this. The manufacturer will either fall somewhat short of the entire decomposition of the Phosphate, or he will go beyond it, setting Phosphoric Acid free; which, to the consumer, is by no means an ob-